

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 FRB-03 OMB-01 TAR-02 SP-03 SWF-02 AGR-20

AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-11 LAB-06 NSAE-00 OIC-04

RSC-01 SIL-01 STR-08 TRSE-00 CIEP-03 CEA-02 AF-10

ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-14 NSC-07 SS-20 DRC-01 /217 W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8225

INFO USUN NEW YORK 1037

OECD PARIS 7256

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DEPT PASS AID

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, EAID, UNCTAD

SUBJECT: UNCTAD TDB XIV: LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

REF: STATE 199894

1. EXTENSIVE DISCUSSION IN SMALL DRAFTING GROUP OF
PRESIDENT'S CONTACT GROUP ON MERITS OF IGG VERSUS
SESSIONAL COMMITTEE INCLUDING STRONG US INTERVENTION
IN SPIRIT OF REFTEL FAILED TO PERSUADE GROUP OF 77.
SUDAN AND NEPAL DELEGATES MADE CLEAR THAT ESTABLISHMENT
OF IGG IS MATTER OF PRINCIPLE TO DEMONSTRATE UNCTAD CONCERN
WITH LEAST DEVELOPED AND THAT ANYTHING ELSE UNACCEPTABLE
TO GROUP OF 77. SUPPORTED IN THIS STAND BY BRAZIL
REPRESENTATIVE SPEAKING FOR LA. SOVIET REPRESENTATIVE
SPEAKING FOR GROUP D ALSO SUPPORTED GROUP 77 WARMLY.

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2. GP. B COUNTRIES LARGELY UNHAPPY WITH IGG BUT WILLING

TO GO ALONG IN FACE DETERMINED GP. 77 POSITION. GP B REPRESENTATIVES THEREFORE NOW NEGOTIATING DRAFT RESOLUTION ON BASIS OF ESTABLISHMENT IGG WITH TIME-LIMITED MANDATE, (ONCE IN TWO YEARS AND THEN TO BE REVIEWED), CLEARLY DEFINED TERMS OF REFERENCE TO PREVENT OVERLAP WITH OTHER AGENCIES, AND MODIFICATION SEVERAL OTHER UNDESIRABLE FEATURES IN DRAFT RESOLUTION. ASSUMING THIS NEGOTIATING EFFORT SUCCEEDS, WE EXPECT US WOULD BE ONLY COUNTRY VOTING IS OPPOSITION TO RESOLUTION.

3. COMMENT: WE DO NOT CONSIDER MATTER OF AN IGG MEETING ONCE IN TWO YEARS TO BE OF SUFFICIENT IMPORT TO WARRANT BECOMING ISOLATED AS THE ONLY COUNTRY VOTING IN OPPOSITION ON A MATTER OF MAJOR INTEREST TO THE LEAST DEVELOPED. WE BELIEVE THIS MIGHT WELL BE POLITICALLY COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE WITH UNDESIRABLE ECHOES IN OTHER CONTEXTS. ALSO BELIEVE NEGATIVE VOTE FOLLOWED BY SUBSEQUENT DECISION TO PARTICIPATE IN IGG WOULD REDUCE OUR CREDIBILITY.

4. THEREFORE PROPOSE ONE OF FOLLOWING OPTIONS:

(A) JOIN IN CONSENSUS SUPPORT OF RESOLUTION AS AMENDED WITH GP B OR IF NECESSARY US EXPLANATORY STATEMENT EXPLAINING MISGIVINGS AND PLACING ON RECORD OUR UNDERSTANDING OF PURPOSES AND LIMITATIONS OF IGG.

(B) US TO REQUEST VOTE AND ABSTAIN WITH EXPLANATORY STATEMENT OF OUR VOTE.

USDEL RECOMMENDS OPTION (A). REQUEST IMMEDIATE GUIDANCE. DALE

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